

# Elmbrook Discussion Questions

## *Who Are You Becoming? A Study on the Beatitudes*

### *We Can Be Better*

#### Introduction

1. What do you most look forward to, as we go through this series on the Beatitudes?
2. In your personal life, is there an outcome, or change, that you would like to see?

#### Head: *What is the passage saying?*

1. In Matthew, chapters 5-7, what is the setting, or context, for the Beatitudes?
2. In Matthew 5:13-14, how does Jesus describe his followers?
3. In Matthew 5:17-48, Jesus describes what is right, "but I tell you." Does this seem counter cultural to today?
4. In Matthew 6:9-18, Jesus gives the example of how we should pray. What part of his example most stands out to you?
5. In Matthew, 6:25-34, Jesus describes how to be stable, "don't worry about tomorrow." Do you observe this teaching in practice?
6. In Matthew 7:13, Jesus declares what matters in life, "enter through the narrow gate." What makes the "narrow gate" so counter cultural?

#### Heart: *How does this passage influence my inner being?*

1. Read outloud Matthew 5:3-12. Of the eight character issues ("poor in spirit," "mourn," "meek," "righteousness," "merciful," "pure in heart," "peacemakers," "persecuted"), where do you think God is most calling you to grow? Who is God calling you to become?
2. What practical step(s) might God be calling you to step into through this series on character?

#### Hands: *How do I practically live this out?*

*Here are some suggestions, or identify your own practical next step.*

1. **Read Scripture:** Take time this next week to read (even re-read) Matthew 5-7, and ask God who he wants you to become.
2. **Encourage:** Look out for these 8 beatitude character issues - and offer encouragement when you see it in others.
3. **Serve:** Meet a practical need(s) for someone else this week. Be intentional to ask God to grow you in one of these character areas while you are serving.
4. **Talk it Out:** Go deeper into relationships, and take a next step to be less private about your faith. Find someone this week to share about who God is calling you to become.
5. **Journal:** Begin a journaling series through this series on the beatitudes.

#### Digging Deeper Study:

1. **Watch (8 minutes):** Learn about the book of Matthew: [Matthew Part1](#) (The Bible Project) on [Rightnow Media](#).
2. **Watch (4 part series):** Learn about the Sermon on the Mount: [The End of Me](#) (Kyle Idleman) on [Rightnow Media](#).
3. **Bible Study:** Take up a study guide on [The Beatitudes](#), or read a helpful [commentary on the Sermon on the Mount](#) (The Bible Speaks Today series).